1) A vessel is signaling to you by flag hoist, and the answer pennant is hoisted closeup. You should _____.

Note: A naval vessel might communicate with a merchant vessel by flag hoist while under the constraint of radio silence. The term "close-up" means that the flag or group of flags is hoisted all the way up to the yard, which is the horizontal spar extending from a mast to which the signaling halyards are rove. In this scenario, the signaling vessel is indicating that signals have been completed.

A. hoist flag "C"

Incorrect: The hoisting of flag "Charlie" would indicate an affirmative answer to a question that had been asked by the vessel signaling.

B. wait for further signals, after a short delay

Incorrect: If the vessel sending the signal wanted you to wait, it would have hoisted "Alfa-Sierra".

C. hoist flag "R"

Incorrect: Although "Romeo" means received, the appropriate reply should indicate your understanding of the fact that the other vessel is finished signaling. See choice "D".

D. expect no further flag hoists

Correct Answer: You would hoist your answer pennant close-up to indicate that you understand that the other vessel is finished signaling.

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2) A jack-up rig, while level in transit at a ten-foot draft, experiences a wind gust, which results in a starboard draft of 11 feet 6 inches. What is the heel?

Note: Heel is the difference between the port and starboard drafts that is caused by environmental conditions. If a difference between these drafts exists because of off-center weight, it is called list.

A. 1 foot 6 inches to starboard

Incorrect: The starboard draft has increased by 1 foot 6 inches due to the wind gust. However, this measurement expresses only half of the heel.

B. 3 feet to starboard

Correct Answer: An increase in starboard draft of 1 foot 6 inches implies a decrease in port draft of the same measurement. The difference between these two drafts is 3 feet. The direction of heel is to starboard.

C. 3 feet to port

Incorrect: Three feet is the correct amount of heel. However, the heel is to starboard.

D. 1 foot 6 inches to port

Incorrect: The heel is twice this amount and in the opposite direction.

3) In the northern hemisphere, an observer at "Point II" in the weather system would experience a wind shift from the ______. (See Illustration D014NG.)

Scenario: The observer is in the warm sector of a low-pressure system, a short distance east of the eastward moving cold front. The center of the low is passing to the observer's north.

A. southwest, clockwise to northwest

Correct Answer: In the northern hemisphere, the wind direction in the warm sector of a frontal system is southwesterly, meaning that the wind is coming from the SW. As the cold front passes, there is an abrupt wind shift from SW to NW.

B. northeast, clockwise to west-southwest

Incorrect: This is impossible in the northern hemisphere. The observer, at this location in the scenario, has never experienced and will never experience a northeasterly wind.

C. northeast, counterclockwise to northwest

Incorrect: This would be experienced by someone in the northern half of the frontal system, north of the warm and cold fronts. In that locale, the wind direction will change gradually, as the low moves east.

D. east, counterclockwise to south-southwest

Incorrect: An observer in another location, due north of the junction of the warm and cold fronts would experience an east wind that gradually changes direction counterclockwise, but the degree of would not be this much.

4) Which vessel is NOT required to have a "Pollution Placard" posted on board?

Note: The requirement for the placard is stated in 33 CFR 155.450. The placard must be at least 5 by 8 inches and displayed in a conspicuous location. It is required on all US and foreign vessels in US waters, except those less than 26 feet in length and those vessels that not governed by the pollution regulations of 33 CFR 155. The text of the placard is a summary of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act.

A. 215-foot naval auxiliary vessel

Correct Answer: Part 155 does not apply to: "A warship, naval auxiliary or other ship owned or operated by a country when engaged in non-commercial service."

B. 75-foot towing vessel

Incorrect: All towing vessels of 26 feet or more in length are required to have the placard.

C. 50-foot cabin cruiser used for pleasure only

Incorrect: The placard is required on all pleasure boats of 26 or more feet in length, as well as commercial vessels.

D. 150-foot unmanned tank barge

Incorrect: The requirement for the placard is the same for all tank barges; manned or unmanned.